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hinge

left: strap hinge
right: T-hinge
Academy Artworks

hinge 

 Listen: [hɪŋj]

n.

- a.** A jointed or flexible device that allows the turning or pivoting of a part, such as a door or lid, on a stationary frame. **b.** A similar structure or part, such as one that enables the valves of a bivalve mollusk to open and close.
- A small folded paper rectangle gummed on one side, used especially to fasten stamps in an album.
- A point or circumstance on which subsequent events depend.

v. hinged, hing-ing, hing-es

v. tr.

- To attach by or equip with or as if with hinges or a hinge.
- To consider or make (something) dependent on something else; predicate: *"convenient and misleading fictions for hinging an argument"* (Stephen Jay Gould).

v. intr.

To be contingent on a single factor; depend: *This plan hinges on her approval.*

[Middle English henge; see konk- in Indo-European roots.]

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